

Amendments to the Specification

The paragraph starting at page 1, line 12 has been amended as follows.

9 Conventionally, as information processing apparatuses, such as a copying machine, wordprocessor, computer, and the like, and communication apparatuses have prevailed and advanced, an apparatus for printing a digital image using an ink-jet print head has increasingly become prevalent as one of image forming (printing) apparatuses for those apparatuses. Also, since the aforementioned information processing apparatuses and communication apparatuses adopt high-quality, color graphic information, a printing apparatus is required to output a high-quality, color image.

The paragraph starting at page 6, line 6 has been amended as follows.

12 In the aforementioned ink-jet printing method, a multi-pass printing method is prevalently used. In a multi-pass printing method using multi-density inks (described in, e.g., Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 7-47698) forms an ink dot by controlling a plurality of ink droplets discharged from a plurality of print elements of a print head to land on substantially a single pixel, and expresses the gray level of that pixel by appropriately combining the number of ink droplets, and dark and light inks.

The paragraph starting at page 9, line 1 has been amended as follows.

C3

According to the present invention, the foregoing object is attained by ~~providing~~, providing an ink-jet printing apparatus for printing a visible image on a print medium by discharging ink from a plurality of ink ejection print elements, comprising means for storing a first table indicating a correspondence between a plurality of inks and gray scale values of print pixels, means for storing a second table indicating combinations of density distribution patterns of print pixels and the ink ejection print elements in correspondence with the gray scale values, designation means for designating a region consisting of a predetermined number of neighboring pixels from pixels that ~~forms~~ form an input image, selection means for selecting the pixel density distribution pattern for the designated region, and control means for controlling ink ejection/non-ejection of ink from the plurality of ink ejection print elements by looking up the first and second tables in accordance with the pixel density distribution pattern and a gray scale value thereof.

The paragraph starting at page 9, line 22 has been amended as follows.

C4

According to the present invention, the foregoing object is attained by ~~providing~~, providing an ink-jet printing method for printing a visible image on a print medium by discharging ink from a plurality of ink ejection print elements, comprising ~~the~~ a designation step of designating a region consisting of a predetermined number of neighboring pixels from pixels that ~~forms~~ form an input image, ~~the~~ a selection step of selecting a pixel density distribution pattern for the designated region, and ~~the~~ a control step of controlling ink ejection/non-ejection of ink from the plurality of ink ejection print

C4
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elements by looking up a first table indicating a correspondence between a plurality of inks and gray scale values of print pixels and a second table indicating combinations of density distribution patterns of print pixels and the ink ejection print elements in correspondence with the gray scale values in accordance with the pixel density distribution pattern and a gray scale value thereof.

The paragraph starting at page 11, line 15 has been amended as follows.

C5

Fig. 9 ~~show~~ shows ink-jet print element arrays including print element arrays capable of printing multi-size dots of light ink, and those capable of printing multi-size dots of dark ink;
